

MEMORANDUM

TO: Superintendents

FROM: Suzette S. Lee, Interim Director
Office of Instructional Promising Practices

DATE: August 16, 2007

RE: State-funded EXPLORE Assessment Program

For the past two years, the State Department of Education (SDE) has paid for all grade 8 or 9 students to take the EXPLORE assessment, an early indicator of college readiness, an effective tool for planning high school course work, and a useful career exploration and planning program. We are pleased to announce that we have secured funding for this assessment for 2007-08.

As information, the recommended testing window is September-December 2007, so that districts/schools may receive score reports in January 2008 for use in registering students for the upcoming school year. To ensure that this assessment is viewed as a part of the district's total assessment program, we are requesting that your District Test Coordinator (DTC) complete an online order form for all of the schools in your district. We will notify the DTCs when the online form has been posted to the SDE Webpage.

If you have questions about this information, please contact me at slee@ed.sc.gov or 803-734-6103. We hope that you will elect to administer EXPLORE and will use the data from it in developing Individual Graduation Plans (IGPs) for all students, as required by the Education and Economic Development Act. Thanks for your support of this important initiative.

Attachment

cc: Associate Superintendents for Curriculum and Instruction
District Test Coordinators